

II. REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-13, 15-17, 23 and 24 are pending in the above-identified application and stand variously rejected. By this Amendment and response, claims 23 and 24 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant expressly reserves the right to file one or more applications directed to the same or similar subject matter as now canceled claims 23 and 24. The cancellation of claims 23 and 24 are made without prejudice or disclaimer and are not intended to be a dedication to the public of the subject matter of the claims as previously presented.

In view of the preceding amendments and the remarks which follow, reconsideration and removal of the rejections set forth in the Office Action is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-13 and 15-17 are allowed. In view of the cancellation of the non-allowed claims, Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-0872.

If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0872.

Respectfully submitted,

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